

**KAMILAROI, DIPPIL, AND  
TURRUBUL:  
LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY  
AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES**

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Kamilaroi, Dippil, and Turrubul: Languages Spoken by Australian Aborigines by Wm. Ridley

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**WM. RIDLEY**

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# KAMILAROI, DIPPIL, AND TURRUBUL:

LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY

## AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES.

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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HE information presented in the following pages, on the Kamilaroi, Dippil, and Turrubul languages, was obtained by the author during three years' missionary effort among the Aborigines of Australia, including journeys over Liverpool Plains, the Barwan or Darling, and its tributaries, the Namoi, the Bundarra, the Macintyre, and the Mooni; also along the Balonne or Condamine, across Darling Downs, by the Brisbane River, and in a circuit about Moreton Bay. The shortness of the time spent in the research will account for the fragmentary character of this contribution to the Philology of Australia. In seeking knowledge of the languages, with a view to the communication of instruction to the Aborigines, the author gladly accepted the aid of colonists who, during many years' residence among that people, had learned to converse with them in their own tongue. He was especially indebted to Mr. Charles Greenaway, of Collemungool (a Kamilaroi name, meaning Broadwater) on the Barwan, for instruction in the Kamilaroi; to James Davies, blacksmith, Brisbane, who lived thirteen years with the blacks near Wide Bay, Queensland, for instruction in



Dippil; and to Mr. Petrie, of Brisbane, for instruction in Turrubul. Both before and after receiving this help, the author communicated with the Aborigines in the districts where these three languages are spoken; and verified and extended, by his own observations, the information thus supplied. Limited as is the author's acquaintance with the several languages referred to, he has met with abundant evidence of their remarkable regularity, and of the exactness with which they express various shades of thought. The inflections of verbs and nouns, the derivation and composition of words, the arrangement of sentences, and the methods of imparting emphasis, indicate an accuracy of thought, and a force of expression, surpassing all that is commonly supposed to be attainable by a savage race.





# KAMILAROI:

The Language of the Aborigines of the Namoi, Barwan, Bundarra,  
and Balonne Rivers, and of Liverpool Plains  
and the Upper Hunter;

WITH

## APPENDICES

BY

THE LAWS OF PEDIGREE AND MARRIAGE, AND ON THE RELATION  
OF VARIOUS AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGES.



